

Tuesday, March 24, 1998

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

House Committees ordered reported 7 sundry measures, including Emergency Supplemental appropriations fiscal year 1998 and Emergency Supplemental Recessions appropriations fiscal year 1998.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S2451–S2503

Measures Introduced: Thirty-three bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 1823–1855 and S. Res. 199. Pages S2488–89

Measures Reported: Reports were made as follows: Special Report entitled “Further Revised Allocation to Subcommittees of Budget Totals from the Concurrent Resolution for fiscal Year 1998” (S. Rept. No. 105–172) Page S2488

Emergency Supplemental Appropriations: Senate continued consideration of S. 1768, making emergency supplemental appropriations for recovery from natural disasters, and for overseas peacekeeping efforts, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, taking action on amendments proposed thereto, as follows: Pages S2452–86

Adopted:

Stevens Amendment No. 2085, to establish a treatment of educational accomplishments of National Guard Challenge Program participants. Page S2458

Stevens (for Kyl) Amendment No. 2079, to provide contingent emergency funds for the enhancement of a number of theater missile defense programs. Pages S2456–59

Stevens Amendment No. 2092, to require the Federal Communications Commission to submit a report on universal service support for public institutional telecommunications users. Pages S2459–60

Leahy Amendment No. 2098, to clarify the definition of “Great Lakes”. Pages S2460–62

Stevens (for Frist/Byrd) Amendment No. 2101, to provide exemption authority for air service to slot-controlled airports. Page S2469

Gorton Modified Amendment No. 2102, to limit International Monetary Fund loans to Indonesia. Pages S2470, S2482

D’Amato Amendment No. 2109, to provide funds to compensate dairy producers for production losses due to natural disasters. Pages S2479–81

Stevens (for Leahy) Amendment No. 2111, to eliminate the State matching requirement with respect to certain amounts made available for fiscal year 1998 for the Small Business Development Center program of the Small Business Administration. Pages S2482–84

Stevens (for Coverdell/Cochran/Bumpers/Boxer/Cleland) Amendment No. 2112, to provide additional funds for emergency watershed and flood prevention operations. Pages S2482–84

Stevens (for Kennedy/Kerry) Amendment No. 2113, to authorize the Secretary of Defense to acquire a lease or other short-term interest in certain cranberry bogs near the Massachusetts Military Reservation, Massachusetts. Pages S2482–84

Stevens (for Coats/Lieberman) Amendment No. 2114, to extend the National Defense Panel to the end of fiscal year 1998. Pages S2482–84

Stevens (for Shelby/Byrd/Boxer/Dorgan) Amendment No. 2115, to provide funds for emergency railroad rehabilitation and repair on Class II and Class III railroads. Pages S2482–84

Stevens (for Gregg/Hollings) Amendment No. 2116, providing for the transfer of certain funds to the Department of State. Pages S2482–84

Stevens (for Ashcroft) Amendment No. 2117, to encourage to use the voice and vote of the United States to enhance the general effectiveness of the International Monetary Fund. Pages S2484–85

Stevens (for Hollings) Amendment No. 2118, to establish an IMF impact team. Pages S2484–85

Stevens (for Grassley) Amendment No. 2119 (to Amendment No. 2100), to encourage the IMF to establish bankruptcy reform in economically troubled nations. Pages S2484–85

Rejected:

Gramm/Santorum Amendment No. 2104, to establish that only that portion of budget authority provided in this Act that is obligated during fiscal year 1998 shall be designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985. (By 76 yeas to 24 nays (Vote No. 40), Senate tabled the amendment.)

Pages S2471–79

Pending:

McConnell Modified Amendment No. 2100, to provide supplemental appropriations for the International Monetary Fund for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998.

Pages S2463–69

Faircloth Amendment No. 2103, to establish an Education Stabilization Fund to make loans to States for constructing and modernizing elementary and secondary schools.

Pages S2470–71

Stevens (for Nickles) Amendment No. 2120, to strike certain funding for the Health Care Financing Administration.

Page S2485

Withdrawn:

Ashcroft Amendment No. 2080, to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide to private sector employees the same opportunities for time-and-a-half compensatory time off and bi-weekly work programs as Federal employees currently enjoy to help balance the demands and needs of work and family, and to clarify the provisions relating to exemptions of certain professionals from the minimum wage and overtime requirements of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938.

Pages S2452–56, S2485–86

Senate will continue consideration of the bill on Wednesday, March 25, 1998.

Education Savings Act for Public and Private Schools—Cloture Vote Postponed: By unanimous consent agreement, the cloture vote on the motion to close further debate on H.R. 2646, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow tax-free expenditures from education individual retirement accounts for elementary and secondary school expenses, and to increase the maximum annual amount of contributions to such accounts, scheduled to occur today, was postponed.

Page S2481

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

William Joseph Burns, of Pennsylvania, to be Ambassador to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

Ryan Clark Crocker, of Washington, to be Ambassador to the Syrian Arab Republic.

1 Air Force nomination in the rank of general.

1 Army nomination in the rank of general.

1 Marine Corps nomination in the rank of general.

Page S2503

Messages From the House:

Page S2487

Communications:

Pages S2487–88

Petitions:

Page S2488

Statements on Introduced Bills:

Pages S2489–91

Additional Cosponsors:

Page S2491

Amendments Submitted:

Pages S2492–S2501

Authority for Committees:

Page S2501

Additional Statements:

Pages S2501–02

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—40)

Page S2479

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m., and adjourned at 7:48 p.m., until 9:30 a.m., on Wednesday, March 25, 1998. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record, on page S2503.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS—AGRICULTURE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies held hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1999 for the Farm and Foreign Agricultural Service of the Department of Agriculture, receiving testimony from August Schumacher, Jr., Under Secretary for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Programs, Keith Kelly, Administrator, Farm Service Agency, Christopher E. Goldthwait, General Sales Manager, Lon S. Hatamiya, Administrator, Foreign Agricultural Service, and Kenneth D. Ackerman, Administrator, Risk Management Agency, all of the Department of Agriculture.

Subcommittee will meet again on Tuesday, March 31.

ALZHEIMERS DISEASE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education concluded hearings to examine issues with regard to Alzheimers disease, focusing on its impact on families and research and development programs, after receiving testimony from Steven DeKosky, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Donald Schmechel, Duke University Medical Center, Durham, North Carolina; Orien Reid, Laverock, Pennsylvania, on behalf of the Alzheimer's Association; Bob and Rosemary Cronin, Dubuque, Iowa; and Piper Laurie, Los Angeles, California.